THE TRUE NARRATIVE OF THE CONFESSION AND EXECUTION Of the Nine Prisoners at TYBURN,

On *Wednesday* the 28th of this instant *April*, 1680.

Ralph Cook to be Drawed, Hang'd, and Quartered for High Treason, *William Harding* for a Rape, *Joseph Runney*, *Matthew Smith*, *John Ralphs*, *Clement Snell*, *Henry Weller* for several Burglaries and Felonies, *Dorothy Temes* alias *Sopes*, and *Ann White* for Felony.

HOw dread and fearful are the frequent Examples of offended Justice, and yet none of them contain a force sufficient to deter vile wretches (blinded with a Vail of Sin) from running headlong on their own destructions as this dismal Sceen of woe will make more visible unto the world, the first that came to Act his traieck part upon the Stage of Death was *Henery Weller*, a notorious Offendor, whom Sentance of Deathhad once before passed on, and then the Mercy of his Gracious Prince turned it into Banishment or Transportation; but since being apprehended for felloniously stealing of a Mare from a Gentleman in the Parish of St. *Martins* in the Fields, which he pawned for thirty shillings, and afterwards sold her to one *Hall* for six pounds half down, and half to be paid at Midsummer; but long he had not possessed her, e're the right owner came to have knowledge where she was, and seising *Hall*

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aforesaid, he was obliged to research his Chapman out, who was drinking in a Strongwater-shop in *Long Acre*, so that being committed, upon his Trial it was proved that he had concealed her in a private Stable for some time, and likewise riding out of Town clipped her Main and Tail in a Bie-lane, the Hair being found there afterwards, so that his frivilous excuses that he had her of another that could not then be found prevailed not, but after Conviction, the dread Sentance of corporial Death passed on him once more; after which during his respit in *Newgate*, he seemed exceeding Penitent, and with abundance of sad groans, deep sighs and Tears he bewailed his obstinancy and disobedience to the Laws of God and Man, desiring the innumerable spectators, to take warning by his downfall, and so continued till the last ending his Life with Prayer.

The next were *John Ralphs*, and *Clement Shell*, two notorious Robbers, for that they committed first a Burglary and Fellony upon the House of one *Benning* in the Parish of *Wisdon*, breaking through a Brick-wall, and Wainscote Pannel in the Company of six more, they entred and bound all except the Maid, *Viz.* two Men, the Master and Mistress of the House, threatning present Death to those that durst cry out or stir, so that having a dark Lanthorn, they gave the Maid before cited a Candle, ordering her on pain of Death to shew them where the Plate and Monies lay, which she through fear was forced to do, so that having gotten three silver Tankards, three Gaudle Cups one dozen of spoons three silver Porringers, and twenty-nine pounds in mony, not so much as sparing the Gentlewomans Ring upon her Finger, who by reason of the fright is since dead, they afterwards commanded the Maid to fetch them Victuals and fell to eating, and having stayed there about four hours; departed with the the worth of two hundred pounds, the next attempt was upon the house of one *William Charles*, living at *Tatnam Court*, forcing in at the Dore, they bound the Family, and plundered the house, and so departed. The Evidence of both Robberies were plain, for which they received Sentance of Death, and as that Gastly King of Terrors does amaze the stoutest Sinner, so they were sensible of their heinous offences and prodigious Crimes, submitting to the Laws, and were very penitent for their enormities, seeming willing if it had been in their powers to make a restitution for the many injuries committed by them.

Ralph Cook who was by Trade a Baker, but having fallen into some pernicious Company was over prevailed with, to practice

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that pernicious Art of Coining false monies, for having taken a Chamber in *Holbourn* for himself, and a woman he pretended to be his Wife; where buying several Pewter-plates and Porringers with Block-Tin, Antimony and several other coarse Metals of all which melted together they cast Mill'd Shillings half Crowns, and smaller pieces; and for some considerable time were successful in their evil practises; till at last he and his pretended Wife falling at some variance, she went down to her Landlord, telling him her husband had done what she feared would be the ruine of them both, at which he being much amazed, thought fit to make a more strict enquiry into that affair; whereupon she told him that he was a Coiner, and had Coined several pounds of false money, at which he starting up, went out and called a Neighbour of his, being a Constable, and breaking open the Chamber dore, found him employed, taking upon him his his Casting Mould, Flask, Melting pots, Graving Tools with many other implements, and seven new half Crowns, all which being plainly proved upon his Trial, he received Sentance of Death, his plea was, that his pretended Wife had taught him that wicked practise, by the Advice of one now in Staffordshire, so that like Satan, when she had plunged him into dangerous ills she afterwards ensnared him. His Repentance was very moderate, and seemingly sincere; much bewailing his unfortunate acquaintance with that woman, who had brought him into miserable ruine.

Joseph Rumley and *Matthew Smith* for a Burglary committed upon the house of *Robert Baits* living at *Mile-end Green*, breaking open the Window shetters with certain Plough Coulters they had brought with them for that Purpose; and taking thence Pewter, Brass, and Linnen to a considerable value, for which receiving their Tryals, the Fact being plainly proved, received Sentance of death after which they much bewailed their misdeeds desiring the Prayers of all Good Ministers that came to see them, being very attentive to their Instructions, and so continued.

Dorothy Thomas a notorious Shoplift, who lighting upon a Country woman in *Drury Lane*, newly come to Town, whom perceiving to have one hundred pounds worth of Lace in a Box she had, were very solicitous to have her take up her Residence with them, which she after some denials consented to; but, that Night having placed one of their Gang behind the dore the woman had not long set down her Box, ere out starts the Ambuscado, and blowing out the Candle catched up the Box, and ran down stairs, whereupon the Country woman would have followed her, but that the Prisoners perswaded her it was the Devil; this being made plain, the aforesaid Prisoners were found Guilty of the Confederacy, so that they Received Sentance of Death, and all their respit of time in Newgate became very penitent.

William Harding a very Licentious fellow received likewise Sentance of death for that he having ticed one *Sarah Southey* a Child about seven years of Age into a Cellar in *Bride lane*, where his Mother lived, and there by force ravished her, not only entring her Body after a Barbarous manner, but also giving her the foul Disease, which being proved against him, he received Sentance of Death according to the Law in that Case made and provided; and after many Repetitions of his vile and unclean Exorbitancies, he bewailed much his breach of the Sabbath, that he had so often committed, desiring all to take warning by his dismal and untimely end.

Sarah Ewing took next her part in this dismal Sceen of woe, for that she coming into a Gentlewomans house in the Strand, and forceing into a Closet, took thence two Scarfs, three laced Handkerchiefs, one piece of Plate, a Gown and Petticoat, which Coat offering to pawn at a Brokers Shop in *Holbourn* and he having before received a Ticket, to stop any such Goods, apprehended her and secured the Coat; which Coat she pretended to pawn for her Mistress, but

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upon enquiry for such a party, she could not be found so that being Committed, at her Trial she pleaded the same but in vain, for she being found Guilty received the Sentance of Death, and being but young in years, but old in Sin, she much bewailed her ignominious and untimely end: desiring all young People to take warning by her sad example.

Ann White being Apprehended for a Burglary and Fellony for breaking the house of one *Dodson* in *Holbourn*, and having taken away several parcels of her Goods the which she dropt into a pail of water, but the Robbery being proved against her she received Sentance of Death, after which most grievously bewailing her crying sins, and enormious offences she desired all people to take warning by her miserable Condition, and to repent them of their Bosome sins, and betimes to lay hold on Christ, that when Affliction comes upon them, they might not dispair of Everlasting Rest, as likewise all of them with Tears and Prayers left this mortal Life for an everlasting habitation not confined to change nor alteration.

After the dreadful Sentances of death was past upon these poor miserable and to be deplored Miscreants whose Lives have now paid the price for their daring Crimes in violating Humain Laws several Godly and well disposed Ministers of the Gospel came to visit them in *Newgate*, and laboured to preserve their precious and immortal Souls, and pluck them out of the Jaws of Satan, who is most busie to deceive poor Mortals, with vain hopes when Death is neareſt and most sure, these holy Men by pious instructions to them, and earnest supplication to the great and dreadful God of all the Earth, gave them such heavenly Manna, and waters of Life for their refreshment, that it is greatly thought by all charitable people, many of them if not all had such a sence of their plunging into Eternity without a preparation, that they with strong Cries and Tears to the Diuine Majesty of Heaven and Earth might prevail with him to sanctify to them their sufferings here below, in being the ready means for to translate them to an everlasting State of Happiness where Grief shall be no more.

Notwithstanding the sad examples of offended Justice, yet no warnings are sufficient, for on the day before Execution, no less than ten persons were committed for Fellonies and Burglaries to *Newgate*.

These are also to give notice that *Sarah Ewing* received his Majesties most gracious Reprieve, a little before the time of Execution.

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